Strung

Strung is a 2026 American psychological thriller film directed by Malcolm D. Lee and written by Alan B. McElroy. It stars Chloe Bailey, Lynn Whitfield, Lucien Laviscount, Anna Diop, Coco Jones, and Romy Woods. Tyler Perry and Jason Blum serve as producers through their Peachtree & Vine and Blumhouse Productions banners, respectively, in association with Blackmaled Productions.[2] The film follows Laila (played by Bailey), a struggling violinist who accepts a live-in tutoring job for a wealthy, elite family and discovers a web of dark secrets.

Strung premiered at the American Black Film Festival on May 27, 2026, and was released on June 26, 2026 by Peacock.

Plot

Cast

- Chloe Bailey as Laila Calloway
- Lynn Whitfield as Audra Jelani
- Lucien Laviscount as Marcus Walker
- Anna Diop as Imani Walker
- Coco Jones as Jasmine
- Romy Woods as Zuri
- Donna Biscoe as Charmaine Stewart
- Pardison Fontaine as Reginald Garvey Bell (RGB)
- Lebo Mashile as Femi
- Langley Kirkwood as Erik

Production

Development

On October 1, 2021, it was reported that Alan B. McElroy would write and direct *Help*, with Jason Blum and Tyler Perry producing the film.[3] On May 16, 2025, it was announced that Chloe Bailey, Lynn Whitfield, Lucien Laviscount, Anna Diop, Coco Jones, and Romy Woods would star in the film, with Malcolm D. Lee replacing McElroy as the director.[4]

Filming

Principal photography was reported to be beginning in Cape Town, South Africa on March 7, 2025,[5] prior to the announcement of the cast.

Music

Ali Shaheed Muhammad and Adrian Younge composed the score for the film.[6]

Release

Strung premiered at the American Black Film Festival on May 27, 2026, and was released on June 26, 2026 by Peacock.[7]

Reception

On the review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, 31% of 16 critics' reviews are positive, with an average rating of 3.5/10.[8]

References

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3. D'Alessandro, Anthony (October 1, 2021). "Tyler Perry & Jason Blum Team For The First Time On Feature 'Help' – BlumFest" (https://deadline.com/2021/10/blumhouse-tyler-perry-help-movie-1234848037/). *Deadline Hollywood*. Retrieved May 21, 2026.
4. Kroll, Justin; Grobar, Matt (May 16, 2025). "Lucien Laviscount, Chloe Bailey, Lynn Whitfield & Anna Diop To Star In Thriller From Malcolm D. Lee And Blumhouse" (https://deadline.com/2025/05/lucien-laviscoun-chloe-bailey-malcolm-d-lee-blumhouse-1236401077/). *Deadline Hollywood*. Retrieved May 21, 2026.
5. Dutta, Shubhabrata (December 12, 2024). "Malcolm D. Lee to Direct 'Help' For Blumhouse" (https://thecinemaholic.com/malcolm-d-lee-help/). *The Cinemaholic*. Retrieved May 21, 2026.
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7. Jackson, Angelique (March 26, 2026). "Malcolm D. Lee's Psychological Thriller 'Strung', Starring Chloe Bailey, to Open the American Black Film Festival's 30th Anniversary Edition (Exclusive)" (https://variety.com/2026/film/festivals/malcolm-d-lee-strung-chloe-bailey-abff-lineup-1236699547/). *Variety*. Retrieved March 26, 2026.
8. "Strung" (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/strung). *Rotten Tomatoes*. Fandango Media. Retrieved July 30, 2026.

External links

- *Strung* (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt36972754/) at IMDb

Strung

Official release poster

Directed by	Malcolm D. Lee
Written by	Alan B. McElroy
Produced by	Tyler Perry Jason Blum Tim Palen Malcolm D. Lee Dominique Telson
Starring	Chloe Bailey Lynn Whitfield Lucien Laviscount Anna Diop Coco Jones Romy Woods
Cinematography	Greg Gardiner
Edited by	Paul Millspaugh
Music by	Ali Shaheed Muhammad Adrian Younge
Production companies	Peachtree & Vine Blumhouse Productions
Distributed by	Peacock
Release dates	May 27, 2026 (ABFF) June 26, 2026 (United States)
Running time	119 minutes[1]
Country	United States
Language	English

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